

Nation
Happy
Mother's
DAY!



The Cree Construction and Development Company Ltd.

JOB OPPORTUNITY

POSITION: Assistant Project Manager

REFERENCE NUMBER: 15-30-014 - 22/04/02

LOCATION: LAVAL/MISTISSINI

The Cree Construction & Development Company Ltd ("CCDC") is presently seeking an Assistant Project Manager for its subsidiary Gestion ADC.

Gestion ADC provides services in the following fields; kitchen services, room cleaning, camp management and a variety of other services.

Under the authority of the Project Manager, the Assistant Project Manager has the responsibility of ensuring that the quality of the services is maintained and that contracts are respected. The Assistant will perform administrative clerical work, which will include billing, submission preparation, correction and processing of time sheets amongst other tasks.

Employment Requirements:

- Education in a related field (Business Administration or other);
- Experience in Administration;
- Appropriate computer skills (Excel, Word etc.) are required;
- Must speak, read and write in English and French;
- Knowledge of the Cree language is a definite asset;
- Must be willing to receive required training;

The company offers complete benefit programs and the salary will commensurate with qualifications and experience. This position is available to both men and women.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: MAY 17, 2002

You can either fax your resume to the following number or mail to:

Robert Baribeau-Human Resources Advisor
The Cree Construction and Development Company Ltd.
187-B Main Street P.O. Box Office 1011
Mistissini, Quebec G0W 1C0

Fax: 418-923-2050

Please write the reference number on your application



Job Opening

The Nation wants you!

To sell advertising in the Chibougamau and Val d'Or regions.

Must be a self starter and willing to travel.

Knowledge of french is essential.

Fax resume to 514 - 278 - 9914

or phone 514 - 272 - 3077

or

e-mail linda@beesum-communications.com

the Nation



News Reporter(s)

(Writing, researching, interviewing)

Would you like to work full-time, part-time?

This challenging position will be responsible for writing news stories and feature articles for assigned beats. Successful applicants for this position will have a nose for news and a knack for turning around well-written breaking news stories and occasional features while meeting deadlines.

A working knowledge of English, French and Cree would be an asset.

the Nation

Please e-mail c.v. to
linda@beesum-communications.com
Or fax 514-278-9914
Submit by May 21, 2002



B.C. TREATY REFERENDUM A SHODDY PROCEDURE THAT IS UNWORTHY OF CANADIAN POLITICS



Years ago when I was living in England a satirical television show conducted a poll of public opinion that exploded the myth of the objectivity of polls. By cunningly phrasing the questions to obtain the results they wanted, they managed to get a huge majority of people to agree with the proposition that they were opposed to post-marital sex. You got that? Most people, according to this poll, oppose sex after marriage!

The idiots who framed the questions for the British Columbia referendum on treaty negotiations have evidently studied this UK experiment, because the eight questions they have sent out for voters to respond to are framed in exactly this way — to produce inevitable answers. As even a *Globe and Mail* editorial suggested, "who could possibly object to maintaining parks and protected areas for all British Columbians?"

For that matter everybody is in favour of hunting, fishing and recreational activities. And your average unthinking guy, uninformed about history, will certainly favour abolishing tax exemptions for Indians. So will he probably favour restriction of Aboriginal-style governments to having municipal powers exercising delegated authority from the province.

But, what about Aboriginal rights, guaranteed under the Canadian constitution. What about Aboriginal title, a concept that has been many times upheld by the courts? And what about justice? As the British Columbia bishops have pointed out, it is an injustice to subject the rights

of a minority to the opinions of a majority.

The government certainly doesn't seem to really know what it is doing. B.C. Attorney-General Geoff Plant now says that the results of the referendum won't necessarily be binding on the provincial government. But the *Globe and Mail* reports that the B.C. government will treat the results as binding: they said that B.C. Premier Gordon Campbell, in a meeting with their editorial board, "argued forcefully that having a strong mandate will improve the negotiating climate."

In a pig's eye, it will. Most of the positions the public will be conned into approving are non-starters with B.C.'s Aboriginal people, especially the invitation to restrict Aboriginal governments to municipal-style powers. In fact, if the policy implications of these eight questions were put into action, that would be the end of Aboriginal rights in B.C. Why is it that the rights of Aboriginal people can be violated in this way, while those of other minorities are never subjected to such indignities?

B.C.'s history in relation to the rights of Aboriginals has been abysmal, and Gordon Campbell is bidding fair to become the worst B.C. leader of all in this regard. How this guy can call himself liberal beggars belief.

Already native people have begun to ceremonially burn the ballots, and one hopes that everyone in the province will follow their lead. This is a shoddy procedure, unworthy of Canadian politics.

By Boyce Richardson

CONTENTS

NEWS

- 5 Police Join Forces
First Goose

- 7 Waswanipi Childcare
CBC Lock-out

FEATURE

- 10 Happy Mother's Day
May 12, 2002

- 15 O.J. Report In

- 16 AIDS and Natives

- 19 The Dogs Ear

- 21 Naughty Squaw's
Advice Column

- 24 Fed's

UNDER THE NORTHERN SKY

- 17 Just In Time

ON THE COVER

Happy Mother's Day
Photographer: Will Nicholls
Cover Design: Mona Violette

SMELL
~~THE SWEET SIGHT~~ OF SPRING



One of the most revered and most welcome of all seasons is here with the arrival of the first goose brave enough to venture past that suspicious looking plastic decoy. The first goose of spring usually signals the primal instinct in all of us and goes off like an itchy trigger finger that needs a good scratching after many moons of hibernation.

Yup, it's springtime, folks, so get out that canoe and strap it on the first long sled you see and head out to your hunting grounds 'cause spring don't last long enough these days. For some strange reason, spring time revolves around an anticipated forecast determined at least a year in advance by the local school committee and lasts an average two weeks. I can imagine those poor working Crees in the south salivating at all those farm geese and the ganders that roam the park downtown. Pity. Geese taste better when they're cooked in a meechuwap and smoked with the aroma of salt dried wood picked from the shores of James Bay. Double pity.

I hear rumblings from south of the border that spring time goose hunting may soon become a reality and perhaps those southern folks will lobby hard enough to get this hunt going again. I have a faint suspicion that the reason why we don't see so many geese flying north is that they don't get shot at in those corn fields and tend to hang around all year long. So you country bumpkins in the deep south, take out those useless steel shot shells and scare off those geese that are eating all your corn and make those huge flocks head north where they can be appreciated on my tabletop.

I was once a contender for the Trivial Pursuit Championship and one question which I failed to answer correctly was "Do geese fly in the rain?" That really got me in a tizzy when I got that one wrong and really blew my chances for the national title as trivial grand master.

(Not!). So do they or don't they? That is the question that fueled many a dispute when one peeked out the tent door in the wee hours of the morning and saw the drizzle of a spring shower. Go out and sleep in the blind or stay in bed and await the first honk of a goose? You tell me.

Another not so joyful event that comes with this season is the spring clean-up. It's amazing what you can find under your bed or deep in your closet. So there's those thick warm socks I've been reserving for the minus forty's. Might as well chuck them back in the closet for next winter. Hey, what's this huge dust ball covering up? Oh no, it's the missing rez notes I promised to send on time, way ahead of the deadline. Is Will Nicholls going to torture me on his grill for that? Or can I recycle old material? Save the environment I say and send this one in. I'll be back ... in two weeks with a sun scarred face and smelling like swill. Ta da...

Letters Policy: All letters must be received one week previous to printing of the Nation to be considered for publication. The Nation reserves the right to edit, modify or reject letters. Letters should be addressed to the Editor in Chief. Mailing address can be found on this page near the bottom of the masthead..

The Nation
is published every two weeks
by **Beesum Communications**

EDITORIAL BOARD
N. Diamond, W. Nicholls

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Will Nicholls

IYIYUU AYIMUUN EDITOR
Brian Webb

COPY EDITOR
Lyle Stewart

PHOTOGRAPHY
Neil Diamond

GRAPHIC DESIGNER
Mona Laviolette

DIRECTOR OF FINANCES
Linda Ludwick

SALES REPRESENTATIVE - MONTREAL
Aaron MacDevitt

LAYOUT & PRODUCTION
W. Nicholls

AD LAYOUT
Aaron MacDevitt

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS
Jennifer Westlake
Danielle Valade

THANKS TO: Air Creebec

WHERE TO REACH US:
POSTMASTER:

5505 ST-LAURENT, #3018
MONTREAL, QC., H2T 1S6

PLEASE ADDRESS CORRESPONDENCE TO:

THE NATION PRODUCTION OFFICE
5678 PARC AVE.
P.O. BOX 48036
MONTREAL, CANADA H2V 4S8

EDITORIAL

TEL.: 514-272-3077, FAX: 514-278-9914

THE NATION HEAD OFFICE
PO. BOX 151, CHASIBI, QC. J0M 1E0

E-MAIL ADDRESS:

Editorial:
nation@beesum.ca
Ads & Classifieds:
beesum@beesum-communications.com
On the Web:
www.beesum-communications.com

SUBSCRIPTIONS

INDIVIDUALS & INSTITUTIONS: \$45

ABROAD: INDIVIDUALS: \$70 U.S.

ABROAD: INSTITUTIONS: \$85 U.S.

PAYABLE TO BEESUM COMMUNICATIONS

PRINTED BY WEBEX
ALL RIGHTS RESERVED
PUBLICATION MAIL # 40015005
ISSN # 1206-2642

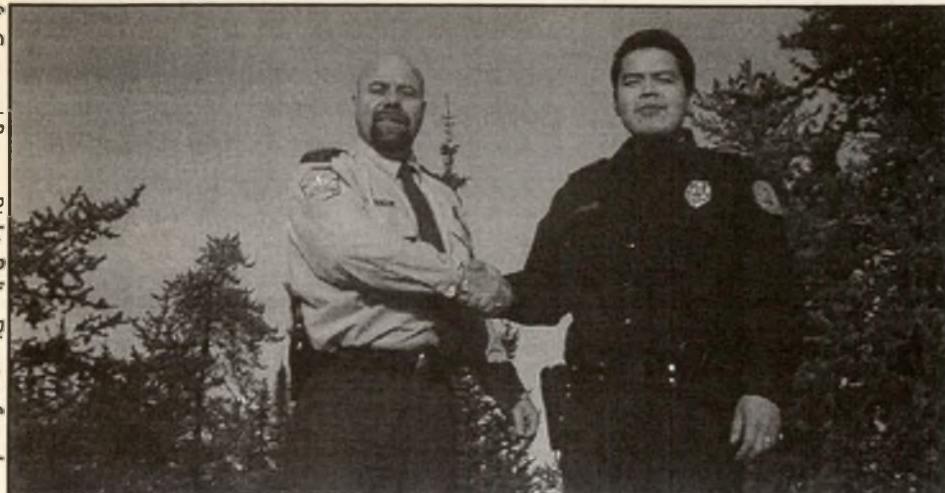
The Nation is a member of:
THE JAMES BAY CREE COMMUNICATIONS SOCIETY, CIRCLE OF
ABORIGINAL CONTROLLED PUBLISHERS, CANADIAN MAGAZINE
PUBLISHERS ASSN.,
QUEBEC COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER ASSN.,
CANADIAN COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS' ASSN
LES HEBDOS SÉLECT DU QUÉBEC



Nation

JOINT TASK FORCE TAKES ON DRUG DEALER

Left: Corporal Basque Right: Police Director Snowboy



Joint operations have been something that the Chisasibi Police and the Radisson Surete du Quebec have been talking about for a while. It became a reality on the evening of April 12 when officers from both forces arrested a 35-year-old francophone white male in what is called a Tactical High Risk Vehicle Take Down in downtown Radission.

The combined Joint Task Force recovered and seized \$11,000 in cash, \$5,000 in narcotics and assorted drug paraphernalia under a Controlled Drug and Substances Act Warrant.

Chisasibi Police Director Harry Snowboy said a high-risk operation like this is determined by collecting intelligence and determining whether or not a person may be violent or armed and dangerous. Chisasibi Police Assistant Director Larry Ross added that there is a definite risk to the officers in stopping a vehicle in this type of operation.

Corporal Michel Basque of the Radisson Surete du Quebec detachment said police informants and rumours had linked the suspect to the bikers or organized crime. Ross told the Nation that they can't release the name of the individual because of an ongoing investigation.

Snowboy says this is the largest bust Chisasibi Police have participated in terms of money and drugs and he is pleased with the increased co-operation that the two forces are using in the war against drugs. "This will send a message to the drug dealers," Snowboy told the Nation.

Ross agreed, saying this is the first Joint High Risk Tactical Operation that the Chisasibi Police have participated in and they were pleased to be a part of it. "The Surete requested assistance from the Chisasibi Police and we happily agreed to do so."

Snowboy acknowledged

there was a link between Radisson and Chisasibi in the drug trade and that it had been a prolonged operation. "Our officers have done their homework on this one and we'll see what it continues to produce," said Snowboy.

The drug link between Radisson and Chisasibi is part of the basis of the increased cooperation between the two police departments.

The arrested individual has been transferred to Amos detention centre and the investigation is on-going at this time. But the results so far have been a source of pride for the Chisasibi Police Director. "I'm very proud of what my officers have done. We have a good team here," said Snowboy.

SQ Corporal Michel Basque said the same thing of the Chisasibi Police force. "There were four SQ and four Chisasibi police officers carrying out the Take Down and there was no difference in performance between the two forces."

Basque said there must be an increase in cooperation between the different police forces in James Bay. "Radisson only has a population of 325 so we know the majority of the drugs are going to the communities," said Basque. "We can't really be effective against drugs in the territory unless we join forces against it. That's why I really appreciate the work that has been done by both the Chisasibi Police and our detachment. It has been a 100 per cent successful operation for me."

Basque added a request for citizens to assist saying, "if you want to help the police fight against drugs, call us and all calls are confidential."

He added one last warning for drug dealers about Cree police joining forces with the Radisson Surete du Quebec: "It will not be the last time."

By Will Nicholls

NEWS

First Goose

Cree hunter Mervin Erless was in his blind on Thursday, April 11, at 12:34 p.m., presumably finishing the lunch his wife or girlfriend packed for him, at Grasset Lake, South of Waskaganish waiting for a flock to fly by. Suddenly, flying right towards him was the goose about to become the First Goose Killed in Cree territory! Erless took aim, and squeezed the trigger. The goose fell with a thud and the rest of the flock took off north towards Eastmain. Approximately one hour later, Norman Gilpin of Eastmain, still hopeful of capturing this year's title, killed the second goose at 1:45 p.m. at Sheep River, 22 km south of the community. Gilpin came close but was robbed by Mervin Erless of Waskaganish. Were they from the same flock? We can only guess.

Below is this year's tally:

According to Glenn Wapachee, Robert Shecapio Blacksmith reported a 10 a.m. kill on April 14 at Lake Opataca while Wesley Mianscum shot one on the same day at 4 p.m. at Lake Gwillam.

Sam Cheezo tells us that Nemaska's Jeremiah Tanoush shot and killed one on the 17th. Sam claims he killed the second for Nemaska on the 20th, near the Pontax River north of the community.

Joe Mianscum of Mistissini shot one the "week of the 17th" according to CINI FM's intrepid reporter Jimmy Iserhoff. Will Nicholls insists that someone from his family usually gets the first goose. But so far he hasn't been able to prove it.

Waswanipi's Jackie Gull didn't have to travel far when he shot a goose just down by Waswanipi River on April 17.

Samson Shem was at Lake Malecot early April 18 when he shot Whapmagoostui's first goose.

Wemindji's first goose was killed by Thomas Mark on km 22 of the Wemindji highway on April 22.

Waskaganish-born Chisasibi resident Robert Salt also shot a goose on Fort George Island on April 22.

Enjoy the hunt and the feasting, folks. Send in your tales from the blind. And to those of you who throw away the goose wings, stop it. Send them frozen to the people who eat them. Thanks.



Cree Board of Health and
Social Services of James Bay

NEW POSITIONS REHABILITATION MONITOR

Open from: April 26th to May 10th, 2002 Posting

No. M-01-022/23/24/25/26/27/28

Status: (2) Temporary Full time

Position No. 8120-3469-2401 to 2407

The Rehabilitation Monitor will work under general supervision of the Physiotherapist, Occupational Therapist, and/or Speech Therapist. The Rehabilitation Monitor will be directly involved with the Home and Community Care team. He/She will be implementing activity or learning programs in the fields of specialized trades in order to foster the development and rehabilitation of beneficiaries. May participate in team meetings dealing with the development of learning and activities programs.

TYPICAL FUNCTIONS

- Provides technical assistance to the rehabilitation staff when providing direct care to the clients.
- Provides assistance to the client when he/she is doing the prescribed activities.
- Monitors the status of the client between the therapists visits.
- Allocates and install adaptive aids in the client's house and/or working environment.
- Takes care of inventory control, purchasing and maintaining of the adaptive aids.
- Maintains statistical record of its activities.
- Records the clients information in the medical chart.
- Participates in the Home and Community Care team meetings.
- Acts as a Translator for the rehabilitation professionals, if necessary.
- Maintains up-to-date lists of clients to be seen by the rehabilitation professionals upon their next visit to the community.

SPECIFIC CONDITIONS AND QUALIFICATIONS

- High School diploma
- Strong interest in providing health care to people with special needs, either at home or at the clinic
- Willingness to be involved in a formal training process possibly leading to a certification (may include academic activities outside the working hours, e.g. study or home works)
- Reliable, long-term commitment
- Bilingual Cree and English (at least minimal ability to translate)
- Competent in reading and writing in English
- Available to travel during the training period and as required by the type of position
- Good interpersonal skills and ability to function within a team environment

COMPENSATIONS/BENEFITS

- The weekly salary varies from \$528.89 to \$607.91, depending on the working echelon.
- The Northern disparity premium is of \$6,640. or \$10,622. depending on the incumbents status (single or with dependents).
- The persons interested are asked to forward their résumé and the name of the community they wish to apply, within the prescribed deadline (**May 10th**) to:

Dolores Audet-Washipabano

Phone: (819) 855-2844 or Fax (819) 855-2680

E-mail: daudet@ssss.gouv.qc.ca



HOCKEY MOM WANTS CHEAPER ENTERANCE FEES AT MINOR CNIT

I am writing to complain about the entrance fee charged at the Minor CNIT. Last year, my spouse and I paid \$64 total for the weekend (4 days). They charged \$8.00/day!! I don't know how much they will charge this year. At a recent non-native tournament we gladly paid \$20 total for 2 weekend passes. At another tourney, we paid \$3/day (\$24 total for 2 people). Now these were reasonable. My spouse and I are avid hockey fans and we hardly miss our son's hockey games and tournaments. So here I am calculating how much we'll spend next weekend for the Val d'Or CNIT. My calculations are as follows:

Gas (full tank) (Mist-Vdor-Mist) x 3	\$65.00
	Total gas = \$170.00
Food	
Brkfast 4 meals x \$6 x 4 people	\$ 96.00
Lunch 5 meals x \$10x 4 people	\$200.00
Supper 5 meals x \$15x 4 people	\$300.00
	Total Meals = \$596.00

Motel	
4 nights@\$90/night	Total Motel = \$360.00
Spending money 2 children \$10/day	= \$80.00 (minimum)
DAILY PASSES \$8/day x 2 adultsx4 days= \$64.00	
GRAND TOTAL TO SPEND AT CNIT \$1270.00	

Imagine if I had to travel from Chisasibi. I'm glad I travel from Mistissini (much cheaper). But still, I find the entrance fee expensive. I am recommending a \$10.00 weekend pass. Maybe, I'll be able to buy Nevada tickets this year. Oops, I almost forgot the player's/team pictures. I think they're at \$25-\$30 per child. I have to buy these, as I will put them up on my wall. I guess I'll be spending \$1300 even this year.

Thank you

Hockey Mom

CREE INDIAN PROPHECY (SLIGHTLY ADJUSTED)

Only after the last tree has been cut down
Only after the last river has been poisoned
Only after the last fish has been caught
Only then will the Cree find that money cannot be eaten.

(A Disgruntled Cree)



AWAASH SHIISHIKUN KAMIK CHILDCARE CENTRE INAUGURATION IN WASWANIPI

Monday, April 22, was a special day for children and families in Waswanipi. It was the inauguration of the new extension to the Awaash Shiishikun Kamik Childcare Center. It was an extension that the Director, Angel Nakogee Saganash, was justifiably proud to show off to visitors.

She has been with the centre since it first opened in 1998 with spaces for 30 children and has seen it grow to its current capacity in being able to accommodate up to 80 children.

The centre is spacious, clean, and brightly decorated to reflect Cree culture with Native designs taking the place of Mickey Mouse and the children's names written on the walls both in letters and in Cree syllabics. In the lunch room there is a large painting on the wall representing a bright sunrise coming up over a lake with a teepee and canoe nearby and a parent with three children playfully walking along the shore.

There are special rooms in the centre for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers. There is also a gymnasium and a library that is equipped with books, a combination television/video player, and large cushions for children to be comfortable.

The expansion was made possible with \$78,000 in funding from the Quebec Ministry of Child and Family Welfare and was initiated following a favourable recommendation from the Cree Regional Authority (CRA) to the Minister of State for Social Solidarity and Child

and Family Welfare, Linda Goupil.

Present for the inauguration was Waswanipi Chief Paul Gull; Norman Gull, Director of Community Services for the CRA; Lynn Fleury, representative for the Ministry of Children and Families; Miriam Trudel, representative for the Minister responsible for the Nord-du-Quebec Region, Michel Letourneau; and Lucie Bergeron of the CRA, who was instrumental in setting up the Waswanipi centre along with others in Ouje Bougoumou and Mistissini and organizing child-care training programs for the workers. Also present for the occasion were parents, children, and other community members.

In his remarks Chief Paul Gull said that he was happy to see the centre become a reality given that "the children are the future of the nation." Norman Gull described the center as "one of the best in the province of Quebec." He also had special praise for the director of the centre and for the board members (all parents), who contribute their time on a volunteer basis.

At the end of the formalities there were gifts for special guests and board members, refreshments for everyone and entertainment provided by the children. A plaque of recognition was also given to Tina Mark who has volunteered her time as a board member since the beginning of the centre's operations.

by Bryan Bishop

Native media workers press job issues

By Lyle Stewart

Locked-out employees of the CBC Northern Service in Quebec continue to make their case for better salaries and working conditions. The nine CBC North workers have elected a union representative to push their case during negotiations with CBC/Radio-Canada management, which locked out 1,400 newsroom employees from Quebec and New Brunswick March 22.

Stephane Boisjoly says much of his challenge is to raise awareness of CBC North workers within the union (the Syndicat des Communications de Radio-Canada) and the public at large – and also to point out that they earn far less for a greater workload than equivalent jobs in CBC and Radio Canada.

Announcer-Producers at CBC North – eight of nine of whom are Native, including seven Crees – earn \$5,000 less per year than their Radio-Canada colleagues in the same job.

They also do more work, says Boisjoly. The unit produces 15.5 hours of programming a week, Boisjoly notes, saying that far more staff is required to produce equivalent programming on the French or English radio-television networks.

He also points to a lack of seniority. "That means that 100 per cent of the native people working for CBC in Montreal have no seniority rights outside of their unit," says Boisjoly, who is Abenaki. "So I think there is prejudice. I don't think it's intentional toward the Cree, but still we want the right to work elsewhere for the corporation based on seniority if the CBC ever decides to close the service."

The CBC North workers have organized a number of events to raise public awareness of their issues. They held a Native Support Day in front of the Maison Radio-Canada April 13, attended by Kashtin singer Florent Vollant and Ghislain Picard, the Assembly of First Nations Regional Chief for Quebec and Labrador. Picard denounced the lack of even basic programming for CBC North, while both CBC and Radio-Canada in Quebec continue to broadcast.

"So this lock-out has an even greater impact on the Cree population," Boisjoly said. "Especially now that it's goose break

Con't on Page 9

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO SENIORS

YOU MAY QUALIFY FOR ADDITIONAL BENEFITS

Canada's Old Age Security pays benefits
to most people over 65.

For those who have not already been contacted,
please note the following:

IF you are 65 or over, with low or modest income, you
may be entitled to the *Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS)*

IF you are 60 to 64 and are the spouse or common-law
partner of a GIS recipient, you may be entitled
to the *Allowance*

IF you are 60 to 64 and widowed, you may be entitled
to the *Allowance for the survivor*

For more information:

• 1 800 O-Canada (622-6232)

TTY/TDD devices: 800 465-7735

• or visit our Web site: www.hrdc-drhc.gc.ca/lsp

Canada's Public Pensions
Improving the quality of life of Canadians for **75** years



Human Resources
Development Canada Développement des
resources humaines Canada

Canada

and people rely on the CBC for important weather information. Sometimes their lives can depend on this service."

Cree negotiator Romeo Saganash has also composed a letter of support for the locked-out CBC North employees. But Boisjoly is saddened at the lack of support from Cree Grand Chief Ted Moses. "My Cree colleagues and myself were quite disappointed that Grand Chief Ted Moses has not done or said anything yet. He has all the information. He was presented with Romeo's letter, but he refused to sign it."

Boisjoly's biggest fight has been internal, however. "I've been pushing the union negotiating committee to fight for our rights" he says. "I want the union to talk about Native people. It's black and white – in the collective agreement Native people are paid less. I think that what we have achieved is that people now know we are there and that we will not be silent anymore."

His efforts are paying off. The union executive met with CBC North workers for the first time ever April 15, when it was decided Boisjoly would represent the unit within the union. Boisjoly also appeared with other union representatives before the House of Commons standing committee on human resources development.

He says he is now "almost" satisfied with the way the union is addressing issues facing its Native members. "I'm not a union militant," he says. "But I'm militant about human rights in general."

Contest

Come up with the best idea on how to raise diabetes awareness in your community and win a jacket. These are the same jackets that were given to the walkers when they went to all nine communities by snowshoes.

Send your ideas to:

Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay
c/o George Diamond
P.O. Box 250
Chisasibi, Quebec
J0M 1E0

Something strange happens when you don't advertise...

Nothing!

Chickasaw Wrestler Dead at 63

Native wrestling legend Wahoo McDaniel has died of complications from renal failure and diabetes. The former pro football player, who lost both his kidneys four years ago, passed away April 18 at the Cy-Fair Medical Clinic in Houston, Texas.

The five-foot-eleven, 280-pound Chickasaw Indian juggled careers as a pro football player and wrestler starting in 1960. Originally drafted by Los Angeles, McDaniel also played football for the Houston Oilers, New York Jets, Denver Broncos and Miami Dolphins. Wherever his football career took him, Wahoo would wrestle during the off-season.

"I played football half a year and I wrestled half a year for 10 years, which worked out good for me," McDaniel told an interviewer some years ago. "I went from football to wrestling and from wrestling right back into football."

With a reputation for being intense and violent in the ring, Wahoo McDaniel played both good guys and bad guys in a professional wrestling career that spanned more than 20 years. Whether he was the hero or the villain, Wahoo's immense popularity always drew in big crowds wherever he wrestled.

A household name in places like Texas, Florida and Georgia, Wahoo McDaniel won countless titles in the wrestling circuits of the southern U.S. throughout the 60's, 70's and 80's. His list of bitter rivals included the likes of Harley Race, Terry Funk, Sgt. Slaughter, Rowdy Roddy Piper, Ric "Nature Boy" Flair, Arn Anderson and Rick Martel. Wahoo was known as the master of the Indian Strap Match, and nearly all of his violent contests inevitably ended with a leather thong tied to the wrist of his opponent.

Throughout his career as a professional athlete, McDaniel took his position as a role model for Native Americans very seriously. He was 63 years old at the time of his death.

Get A Life, Buddy

In what can only be described as a desperate quest for fame, John Winter Smith is attempting to visit every Starbucks coffee franchise in the world.

The 30 year-old Texan began his odyssey in 1998 and has so far visited 2,850 stores. The ever-expanding chain currently has 3,630 stores around the globe, with plans to open another 625 this year.

According to his own calculations, Smith has spent roughly \$6,500 U.S. in travel expenses and coffee purchases since 2000. Information is not available on how many trips to the bathroom he made during the same period.

MONUMENTS AMOS INC.

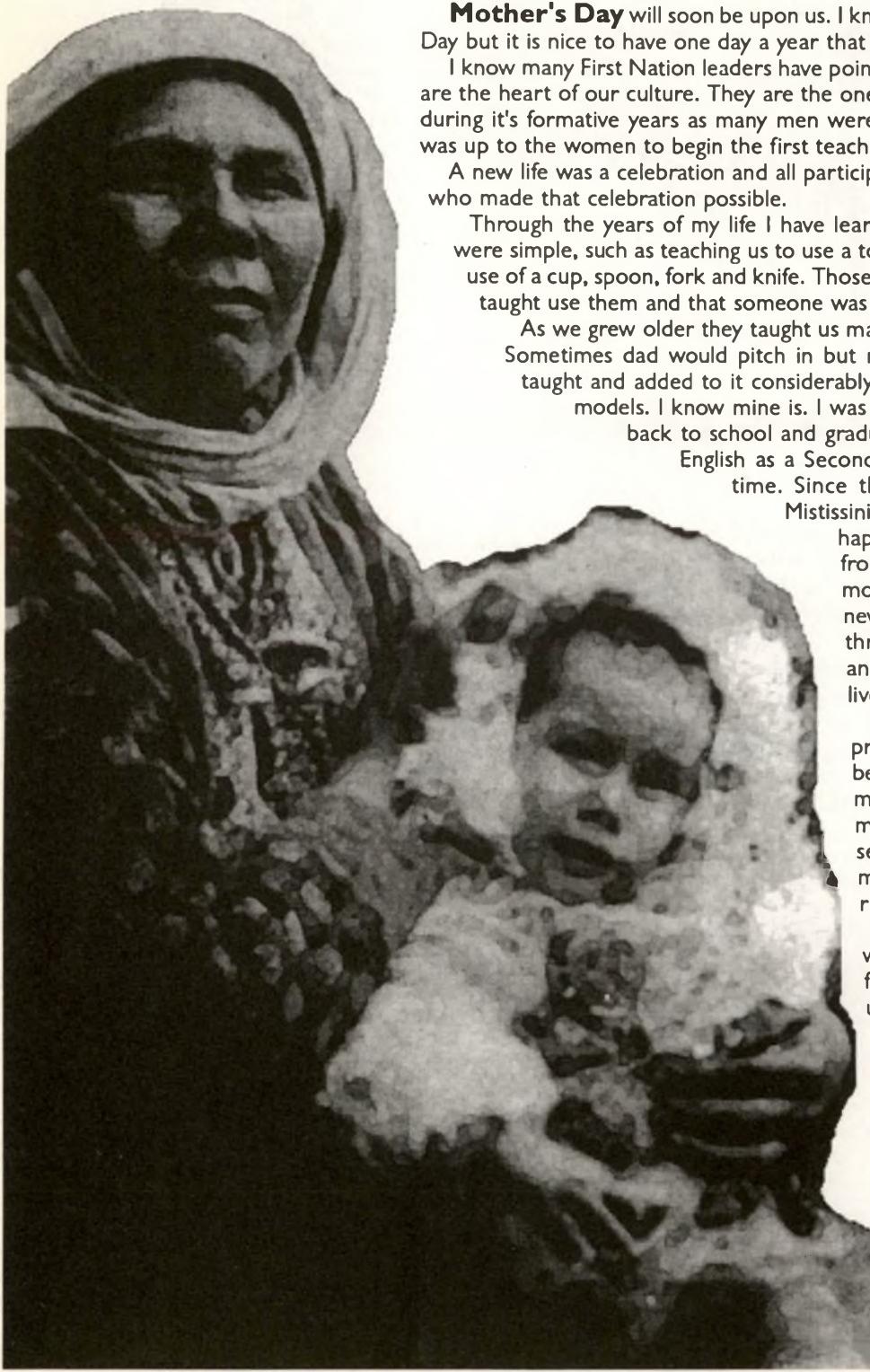
Experience serving the Cree communities.
Our granite headstones can be personally
designed and written in Cree.

Monuments Amos Enr.
4471 Route 11 Sud, Amos, Quebec J9T 3A1
tel.: 1-819-732-2283 • fax: 1-819-732-7077

Owner: Marcel Labonté
marcel.labonte@monumentsamos.com

Mother's Day 2002

-WILL NICHOLLS-



Mother's Day will soon be upon us. I know some people say every day is Mother's Day but it is nice to have one day a year that you can make extra special for them.

I know many First Nation leaders have pointed this out and have said that the women are the heart of our culture. They are the ones who bring new life and nurture that life during its formative years as many men were hunters and trappers and were away. It was up to the women to begin the first teachings that a young person would have.

A new life was a celebration and all participated in it joyously but it was the mothers who made that celebration possible.

Through the years of my life I have learned many things from my mother. Some were simple, such as teaching us to use a toilet properly instead of my diapers or the use of a cup, spoon, fork and knife. Those skills we all take for granted but someone taught us them and that someone was our mothers.

As we grew older they taught us manners and how to behave around others. Sometimes dad would pitch in but mothers always reinforced whatever was taught and added to it considerably. They were and usually still are our role models. I know mine is. I was never so proud of her as when she went back to school and graduated with a bachelor degree in teaching English as a Second Language. She was 50 years old at the time. Since then she has become a vice-principal in

Mistissini. I was so happy and proud when that happened. It showed me that I could still learn from her. I believe she taught me one of the most important lessons I will ever learn. It is never too late to learn, to strive and to follow through so that a dream may become reality and age does not matter. I only hope I can live up to her example.

In all cultures mothers are a source of pride, devotion and honour. If you want to be foolish and test this out just go up to any member of any culture and insult his or her mother. It is one of the few times we always seem to lose our cool. Like I said, our mother is a role model for us and we have rightly placed her on a pedestal.

Of course being on that pedestal is hard work – as is picking up after us, cooking for us, teaching us, comforting us, loving us and protecting us.

So once a year at minimum we should honour our mothers and go out of our way to make their lives easier.

Since my mom's turning 60 this year I thought I would reprint one of her first, and easily my favorite, story that she wrote and sent into the Nation. It is a story of how it used to be.

I am sure your parents or grandparents have the same types of stories and maybe on Mother's Day you could ask for theirs. It is a piece of family history that you can pass on to future generations about Cree mothers.



Birth in the Spring

by Dorothy MacLeod Nicholls

Far from the city northward toward the mud flats of James Bay the geese will be migrating. Returning from Elizabeth's school in Montreal, I heard their honking early one morning as they flew overhead. It was the month of March and it seemed almost too early for them to be returning but who knows better than the birds how soon spring will arrive. The spring gives me a sense of being born again as I see the newness of life appear in that which laid dormant during the winter. It springs upward and reaches out to the sunlight to colour the world around us as a painter with a scene to create. The painter is nature itself.

Let me bring back just once more a touch of winter before we close the chapter on it entirely and commence my story from there.

The icy cold wind blew furiously outside the dome-shaped shelters. The dwellers moved about occupied with various tasks, relaxed and waiting for the weather to change. Time was measured by seasons and somewhere in the horizon spring would come.

The year was 1942 and the dwellers of the dome-shaped shelters had removed the coverings off the frames. They had stored that which was to be left behind and prepared for their journey southward.

They have been traveling steadily for a month. The long endurance of winter hardships was left behind and forgotten for the moment but at the end of the summer, they would return to the tranquillity that only the wilderness could fulfill.

It was the continued practice of the generations of those who came before them.

As they paddled, gusts of refreshing southerly winds caressed their bronze tanned faces and they heaved a sigh of contentment. It was as if in answer to their well-being the forest around them confirmed by stirring the branches of the trees as the breeze gently passed through them. The laughter carried through the forest and across the open waters. The drops of water glistened from the paddles as they were lifted from the water and sparkled as many diamonds caught by the sunrays. The ripples of water flowed gleaming and forming patterns towards the rocks and sand beaches as the canoes sliced their way close to the shore.

A young woman sat amongst the belongings of one of the canoes. She was almost wedged in by overlain bundles. Many concerned looks passed between the young woman and her mother. She was heavy with child and it was almost certain she would give birth before the journey ended. As every living thing in the wilderness began to replenish, she would become part of it. The dainty exotic small flowers that one could find sheltered close to the earth and the various small birds, which warbled their songs of beauty. They all came from the birth of spring springing forth to greet the season as would her first child.

The young woman pressed her hand upon her round stomach and felt the first pains of labour. The group hastily made its way to the nearest portage and pulled their canoes into the shoreline. They moved about in different directions preparing camp.

The young woman sat and watched as the tents were erected over poles so recently placed firmly into the ground. The women returned from the depths of the forest laden with

Continued on page 12

boughs to be placed upon the bare ground inside the tents.

They were a people of few words as their nature did not permit the luxury of idle talk for their very survival depended on the silence of its members. The familiar sounds of someone chopping wood echoed through the serene density of the forest. Children raced around the camp, happy to be able to stretch and move about after the confinement of the canoes. Their laughter was silenced by a mother who cast a look of seriousness in their direction.

Soon the young woman was ushered into the tent and made comfortable among the coverings and cushions that were spread on the bough covered floor. The long awaited moment had arrived and she felt the baby move within her as if to say it was also preparing to enter and make its presence known to its mother. Both were to venture in unknown areas and it would be a time the mother would remember for the both of them. The mother of the young woman set a kettle of water on the newly kindled fire. The evening came with its shadows and coolness of the night air. The children pressed close together for warmth and companionship under the faded patchwork blankets and were soon fast asleep.

In the array of tents was a shaman who had hung a drum dangling from the centre of the tent frame. Now he sat on the ground with the drum in line with the centre of his body. His hands were poised on the edge of the drum awaiting a proper time to commence his ceremony.

The other men sat before an open fire and the women gathered at the tent where the young women laid in labour. A moan escaped from the lips of the young woman as she felt the increase in the tempo of her labouring. The women looked anxiously towards her and almost instantaneously they heard the beginning of the chanting and the beating of the drum. The young woman relaxed to the soothing sounds which penetrated her being. Each time she felt the beginning of a pain, the drumming and chanting came forth comforting and healing the hurt.

The camp had grown silent and seemed to concentrate on the rhythm of the woman's moans accompanied by the shaman's interlude. Each soul fell under its mystical spell and was calmed of unforeseen fears. As the night clothed its darkness around the camp and forest, the drumming, chanting and travailing continued increasing as the time of birth drew nearer.

Soon the first streaks of light brushed across the trees silhouetting their spike-like tips and the sun rose to peak at the edge of the earth casting shadows on the shores. The cry of the newborn child challenged the breaking of the dawn



and the shaman laid his drumstick to rest on the side of the hide.

My mother was 14 or 15 years old when I was born. It was time when many babies died from the malnutrition and sickness that afflicted the northern Crees, who were experiencing a depression of their own. Throughout my childhood and adult life, many of the people who were at the camp during the time of my birth and the first year of my young life filled in the details to make this story as real as possible. Louise (Gunner) Trapper's mother was the midwife who delivered me and her husband Robbie Gunner gave me my first brushing. Because my mother was so young, Lizzie Edwards and Mary Petawabano nursed me. Mary always greets me by saying, I used to nurse you and look at how big you are now. Three days later my young mother and I were back in the canoe. The shaman was David Paddy.

Mother's Day is on the 14th of May. A time when we honour and show our love to the mothers who gave us birth. I felt such a closeness to my mother when she shared my birth with me. I saw the picture before, as I have tried to describe to you. My mother was sick this year with cancer and our family drew together as we realized how close we had come to losing her. But by God's grace she is with us this year.

Let's keep our stories alive. It is something we can share with our children and our grandchildren. When I was small, there was an understanding that all Elders were our grandparents and I like to feel that is still true. Everyone was responsible for everyone else and it drew us closer together.

It is time for goose break and many families will share some traditional time together in the depth of the wilderness. The excitement of this time of the year reaches my family and we look forward with anticipation to coming together as a family again. Part of me leaves for the bush and longs for the tranquillity of nature and peacefulness that surrounds the camp.

Mother's day: an Ancient Tradition

The earliest recorded Mother's Day celebrations can be traced back to the spring celebrations of ancient Greece in honor of Rhea, the Mother of the Gods. Later in the 1600s, "Mothering Sunday" was celebrated in England. This was done on the fourth Sunday of Lent (the 40-day period leading up to Easter). Mothering Sunday honored the mothers of England.

During this time many of England's poor worked as servants for the wealthy. As most jobs were located far from their homes, the servants would live at the houses of their employers. On Mothering Sunday the servants would have the day off and were encouraged to return home and spend the day with their mothers. A special cake, called the mothering cake, was often brought along to provide a festive touch.

In the United States, Mother's Day was first suggested in 1872 by Julia Ward Howe (who wrote the words to the Battle Hymn of the Republic) as a day dedicated to peace. Ms. Howe would hold organized Mother's Day meetings in Boston, Mass every year.

In 1907, Anna Jarvis of Philadelphia began a campaign to establish a national Mother's Day. Ms. Jarvis persuaded her mother's church in Grafton, West Virginia to celebrate Mother's Day on the second anniversary of her mother's death, the second Sunday of May. By the next year Mother's Day was also celebrated in Philadelphia.

Ms. Jarvis and her supporters began to write to ministers, businessmen and politicians in their quest to establish a national Mother's Day. It was successful as by 1911 Mother's Day was celebrated in almost every state. In 1914, President Woodrow Wilson made the official announcement proclaiming Mother's Day as a national holiday that was to be held each year on the 2nd Sunday of May.

The role of a mother has changed drastically since that Sunday in May, 1907. In today's society, many women not only work but are homemakers as well as mothers. In the Cree world there are more and more single parents and they must play the role



of both mother and father. This is a big challenge and Cree women have risen to it well.

Divorce, death and single parenthood as well as the high cost of living made it necessary for women to work. Women today may work because they want to have a career and be independent. They want to have money to buy what they want when they want it. The busy life of a working mother is not an easy one. They have to ensure their children are in the hands of a responsible and loving caregiver.

Today, we celebrate Mother's Day without giving much thought to its origin. But, just as Anna Jarvis did almost a century ago, we pay tribute to our mothers with honour, love and respect. Though mothers of today face new challenges, they are still the foundation of their homes and the Cree Nation.

Remember we will pay special tribute to our Mothers but throughout the year pick up the phone or drop by for a visit on a regular basis. This is the best gift you could give your mother. Oh, and don't forget to give her a hug and tell her, "I love you Mom." It will boost her spirit, bring a smile and make her feel special. Without our mothers we would not be where we are today.

More than 46 countries around the globe have a special day when they pay tribute to mothers. England still celebrates Mother's Day on the fourth Sunday of Lent.

International Mother's Day is always celebrated on May 11, and Canada sets aside the second Sunday in May for Mother's Day. The United States takes this holiday one step further and sets aside the fourth Sunday in October for Mother-In-Law Day.



Ideas for Mother's Day

Many families begin Mother's Day with breakfast in bed. Usually Dad and the kids will let mom sleep late as they go into the kitchen and prepare her favorite meal. A Mother's Day breakfast can consist of anything your mom likes.

After the food is cooked, arrange everything nicely on a tray. Don't forget the vase with a single flower. When everything is ready carefully carry the tray and mom's favorite sections from the newspaper up to her bedroom. Cards and small presents from the children can be placed on the tray before it is presented to mom in bed.

But don't think your work stops there.

Many families make a special Mother's Day dinner (see Will on the Grill if you don't have any ideas) or if you're rich and lazy take mom out to her favorite restaurant for a meal. It is a good day to let your mom relax and let her see what a wonderful family she has.

Other ideas include:

- 1) Clean the entire house for her and she'll think you are a saint.
- 2) Always thank her for the things she does for you like laundry, the dishes, etc.
- 3) If you're a dad and forgot Valentines Day, here's your opportunity to get out of the doghouse. Do something romantic. Part of that might be telling how beautiful she is and what you admire about her.
- 4) Create a scrapbook of some of the things that you did with her. Keep adding to it as the years go by so you'll have great memories to help mom keep going. Have all the family make a top ten list of reasons why mom is the best to put in as well as photos and stories.

If you don't have a lawn then plan one with mom. Pick out areas you might like a tree or two. The first thing you'll need to do is get some peat moss, sawdust and worms. You can add some shredded newspaper if you want and add everything to the soil. This will create what is called a worm bed.

Most communities have little top soil and this will help to set the stage for growing a lawn as sand isn't all that good. To this mixture add worms. You don't have to buy them but can go to an existing place and get worms for free after a rain. Digging for them is optional.

When you have the worms you need to remember that a 75 per cent moisture level is required. This means watering a lot but also you can cover with black plastic to retain water and keep out the light. If you have done this you have created a worm composting system. It may take about six weeks before you notice a change.

To truly assist in the process you might want to make a compost heap which will make a very nice soil for you. It is where you take all you organic wastes like potato peelings and other vegetable matter as well as other food wastes (what you don't eat) and throw them into a five gallon pail. Each full five gallon pail is good for one layer in the compost heap. You can add grass clipping and brush. A typical backyard compost heap has a holding pen four feet in diameter. If you see some place that has a lawn and throws out grass you can use up to 35 bags to fill your holding pen.

Every time you add a new layer it should be covered with

some of what you already have in the pen. Don't worry the first time around, just let the stuff set until it turns dark or brown. Using a shovel or pitchfork mix the stuff around at least once a week.

When it becomes mulch (believe you'll be able to figure this one out on your own) you can mix it into the soil.

Typical compost materials can be peat moss, grass clippings, leaves and twigs, flowers, old potting soil, weeds, fruit and vegetable scraps, tea bags and coffee grinds, wood ashes, sawdust and wood chips, pet hair, your hair, eggs shells, manure and straw.

Woman in White

by Nellie M. Bearskin

Once I knew a woman, my mother, my mom with hair as long as the grass that grew along the river, hair as light-brown as the autumn leaves that fall. Eyes as light-brown as the sands near the river's edge, eyes that sparkled like the early morning dew. Skin as white as the first snowflake that falls. Skin as soft as the clouds that pass over. Hands as soft as the grains of the white sands. Hands as soft as the grains of the white sands. Hands as gentle as the rustling of the birch leaves in a gentle breeze. Heart as bright as the dancing northern lights on a cold winter night. Heart as warm as the sun on a early summer day.

Once I knew a touch, a soft touch of warmth, of gentleness, of feeling snug in her embrace. Wiping my tears from my face. Hearing her words of comfort, hearing her whispers of love and care.

Once I knew the loss of a woman, my mother, my mom. Only a faded picture I hold. Forever gone, the touch, the feelings, the words, the whispers. Only to be imprinted in my heart forever I keep.

Now I know the hope of spirit. I see your hair in every blade of grass, in every autumn leaf that falls. I see your eyes in every sand grain along the river's edge and in the sparkle of early morning dew. I feel your skin, when I feel the first snowflake upon my face and see the clouds, ever so soft, flowing across the sky. I feel your hands, as my feet gently caresses the white sands and hear the rustling of the birch leaves in the gentle breeze. I see and feel your heart when I look upon the skies and see the wonders of the universe.

Now I know the love of spirit. I feel your touch, a soft touch of warmth, of gentleness, of feeling snug in your embrace, as I lie on mother earth. I feel your hands, as the rain gently pours on my face, wiping away my tears. I hear your words of comfort in the rustling wind. I hear your whispers of love and care in the gentle breeze.

Now, I know a woman in white, my mother, my mom. Who left her physical body, left the earth plane, for her soul lives on forever. For her spirit lives in my heart, in everything I see. For her spirit will always be with me, giving me hope... love.

Dedicated to all my sisters, to all my friends; Caroline Jolly, Robbie Dick, Agnes Kawapit. And to all the people who have lost their mothers, their moms.

A gift with love: Happy Mother's Day!

Should O.J. Be Concerned?

By Lyle Stewart

There are grounds for a preliminary health study among the Ouje-Bougoumou Cree, but no need of a full-blown program of detoxification of heavy metals among community members. That's the conclusion reached by a third-party review of last fall's Christopher Covel study of toxic contaminants in the water, wildlife and people of Ouje-Bougoumou caused by decades of gold and copper mining.

McMaster University toxicology professor Evert Nieboer authored the review, which was delivered to the Ouje band council April 16. A copy was obtained by *The Nation*.

Nieboer wrote that a health study and an environmental assessment may "help reduce the level of anxiety in the Ouje-Bougoumou communities." But he criticized Covel's reliance on hair sampling of 23 Ouje individuals to call for a major health intervention among all community residents.

"For the elements other than mercury, the scientific basis is not in place for hair concentrations alone to trigger health-related interventions among environmentally exposed individuals," Nieboer wrote. "Of the elements assessed in hair in the present study, mercury and lead are of some concern and follow-up seems warranted." He also said the level of concern is "moderate."

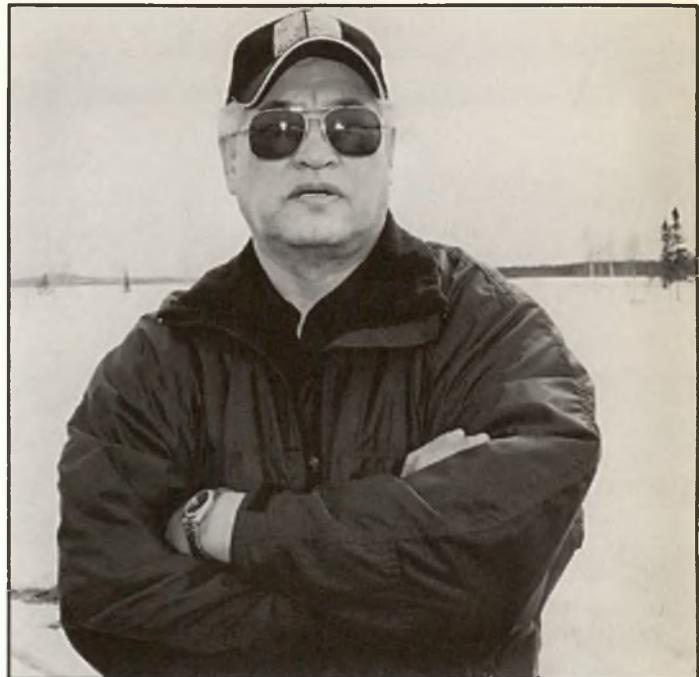
Nieboer also suggested abnormally high levels of cadmium and lead may be due to lifestyle issues. Cadmium, he suggested, could present in hair samples could be due to cigarette smoking or exposure to second-hand smoke. As for lead, Nieboer wrote that consumption "of traditional foods obtained through hunting constitutes another potential lead source. Exposure from the use of lead ammunition and consumption of contaminated food has been documented by us among the James Bay Cree communities and other First Nations communities."

Last October, New Hampshire geologist Christopher Covel completed his study based on testing for heavy metals in human hair samples, fish, water and sludge near mine tailings sites. Ouje residents had for years complained of catching horribly deformed fish, many missing scales, fins or eyes.

Covel's investigation found that the hair from Cree test subjects showed levels of selenium three times higher than average, levels four times higher for lead and five times higher for aluminum. Worrying levels of arsenic, mercury, manganese and cyanide were also found in some test samples.

Covel concluded that "the sample provides convincing evidence that the exposure to toxins due to the mine tailings or lumbering is transmitted through the food web and absorbed by a substantial number of Ouje Bougoumou Cree of different ages, sex, and life patterns."

Dartmouth College professor Roger Masters, president of the Foundation for Neuroscience and Society in Hanover, NH, reviewed and interpreted Covel's data. And the two recommended a vastly expanded study of soils, groundwater and fish, and an immediate program for the identification and detoxification of heavy metals in the Ouje-Bougoumou Cree. They say the heavy metals put the Cree at risk of cancers, learning disabilities and can cause aggressive behaviours by affecting the brain's uptake of dopamine.



The Nieboer report was commissioned as an independent overview after Quebec public health authorities heavily criticized the work by Covel and Masters.

For Ouje-Bougoumou Chief Sam Bosum, it's tough to decide who, or what, to believe. "The government didn't like the Covel report," he said. "It says the problem is quite serious. Others don't think so. That's why we got the third-party report."

Bosum also pointed out that only two of the 30 local mines are now operating, leading to high job losses in the Chibougamau area. A political controversy over an environmental catastrophe would make reopening many of those mines difficult, and could forestall a proposed vanadium mine in the region.

The ball has now bounced back to Quebec City. The band council will review Nieboer's report before taking a position. The band will meet with provincial authorities, likely near the end of May, to negotiate what environmental and health initiatives, if any, are required.

Roger Masters, for his part, responds to Nieboer's criticisms of his and Covel's methodology by saying that hair sampling is only an initial step to determine if more in-depth study, such as blood testing, is required. And he's convinced it is.

"Our proposal is to test the entire population of Ouje-Bougoumou," he said. "If you think of the risks of those mines, it's very clear from what we've already done that there are a lot of toxins in that environment."

At the same time, Masters suspects the province wants many of the mines to be reopened, and that may explain the foot-dragging on the issue. "The trade-off between money and health is a disaster," he warned. "If some people get money by poisoning children, I think this is immoral and I cannot remain silent."

ONE NIGHT OF FUN CAN TURN A LIFE UPSIDE DOWN: AIDS AND NATIVES

By Bryan Bishop

In 1992 Rene Boucher moved to Vancouver to attend school at a Native College. He was in his second year studying Accounting and doing well when he went out partying with some friends during the Christmas break.

Then, says Rene, all it took was one night of unprotected sex with a stranger to turn his life upside down. Up to that time he had not paid any attention to warnings about HIV and AIDS because he felt that it was not something that he had to worry about. And suddenly he was faced with having to live with the consequences.

Rene Boucher is a 35-year-old Native man from the Oji-Cree community of Sioux Lookout, Ontario, who now writes and speaks of his own experience in order to promote HIV and AIDS awareness and education.

In Native communities across Canada there is a growing incidence of HIV and AIDS. According to a 1999 report by Health Canada, First Nation Peoples have experienced the greatest increase in the proportion of AIDS cases between 1989 and 1998. That proportion jumped from 1.3 per cent of the total reported cases in 1989 to 10.9 per cent in 1998 in spite of the fact that native people represent only 3.6 per cent of the Canadian population.

HIV or Human Immunodeficiency Virus is a virus that weakens the body's ability to fight off infection and disease. People can sometimes live for a long time with HIV. In other cases HIV can develop into full-blown AIDS causing death.

Eighty-eight percent of the deaths associated with AIDS are related to opportunistic infections that would otherwise be harmless if the immune system of the person with HIV was not weakened.

There is no known cure for HIV and AIDS although there are combinations of medications which can prolong a person's life. These are also called drug cocktails which can include having to take as many as 35 pills per day.

In a study conducted by Francois Boudreau, Adje van de Sande, and Marc Roulier, it is reported that the transmission of HIV occurs in the majority of cases through unprotected sexual contact involving the exchange of sperm, vaginal fluid, or blood.

And in spite of the fact that the most common form of HIV transmission is with anal sexual contact, there is a clear risk of infection through unprotected vaginal sex. There is also a high risk of transmission through intravenous (needles) drug use due to dirty needles.

Having more disposable income, the problem for Natives is often with travel to nearby towns (such as Val D'Or, Chibougamou, and Montreal for James Bay Crees) where people can engage in high risk behaviours such as sleeping with prostitutes and in some cases engaging in intravenous drug use.

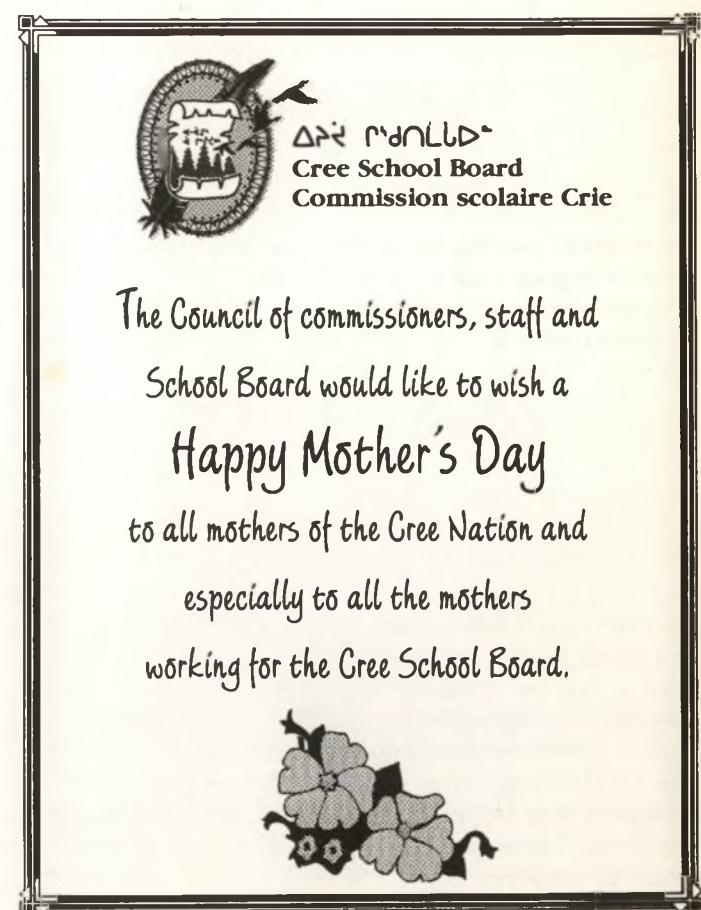
Rene Boucher believes that, despite the growing incidence of HIV and AIDS in Native communities, there is too much silence surrounding this entirely preventable disease and in order to



Available at your local CLSC. Play safe for our future.

prevent its needless spread the silence must be broken.

And Rene says openness and education offer the greatest hope to Native people fighting this potential killer, given the history of devastation by diseases in the past.



Just In Time

Xavier Kataquapit

People in southern and mid Ontario have packed away their snowmobiles for the year. However, many along the James Bay coast ride their machines right up until the last patch of snow in mid April. In my home community of Attawapiskat, there are still people risking the ride over the frozen James Bay ice to get to their goose hunt camps.

They still use the snowmobile to get to their traditional hunting grounds along the James Bay coast or to Akamiski Island for the annual spring goose hunt. There are many hunters in my community who have the skills needed to safely travel over the melting ice and snow on the bay and river. My dad Marius is one of these people and he has a great deal of knowledge of snowmobile travel in all types of conditions. There have been many times when I was growing up and taking part in the spring goose hunt that we had to make the trip in wet and slushy conditions. I recall one trip during a warm spell in the first week of April.

After spending several weeks on the land along the Nawashi River, which is about 100 kilometres north of Attawapiskat, we prepared ourselves to leave to go home. Even though we had spent a long time at our hunting spot we were only able to actually hunt for a few days. Most of the geese fly over for only a few days. The spring goose hunt requires a great deal of timing in order to make it home with geese for the family by snowmobile. Once the weather begins to warm under the welcome spring sun, the entire landscape quickly becomes a wet, slushy and impossible surface for traveling. At our camp on the Nawashi River we were situated on a familiar gravel hill that has been used for centuries as a campsite. During this very warm spell the surrounding snow and ice quickly transformed into water and surrounded our high spot.

Every evening leading up to our departure, we all gathered inside our prospector tent to listen to the crackle of the bush radio and hear the conversations and reports about the goose hunt from other families along the coast. Dad interrupted the distant voices to talk to other hunters in Attawapiskat who were keeping close watch on the river ice to find out the conditions for traveling. Other hunters along the 100-kilometre route also provided their input and gave directions that indicated we should avoid larger rivers and go further out on the bay where the ice was still solid and good for traveling.

We loaded up four sleds with camping gear, fuel, a large canvas tent and our precious cargo of geese. It was



obviously time to head home. We could not follow the Nawashi River but instead had to ride over the remaining patches of snow in the bush to make our way to the open ice of James Bay. Once out on the bay, travel became easier. The flat surface ice and snow of the salt-water bay is always the last area to melt away. We traveled for several hours on the smooth surface at full throttle and in the warm glow of the mid day sun.

As soon as we reached the Attawapiskat River and began to travel along its familiar bends we grew excited and knew that we were almost home. Our long ride became complicated with the fact that dad had noticed the river ice was about a day or two away from breaking up completely. The ride across the melting ice over the deepest parts of the river worried everyone and we all moved as quickly as possible to the other side.

Attawapiskat was now just a few feet away on the bank of the river. However, the ice along the bank was broken up due to the movement of the incoming and outgoing tides and this created another dangerous obstacle for us to deal with. There were huge gaps of water to cross. Each one of us lined up with our snowmobile and then raced to hydroplane over the twenty-foot space of water to the muddy bank of the river. I also must note that we each pulled a heavy sleigh behind us. One by one we made it across the water in front of an audience of people watching from the top of the bank. They voiced their approval as we touched on to the safety of the bank. We parked on the muddy bank and walked home to fetch dad's truck to haul our sleds into the community. After our day long ride over the snow and water we spent the remainder of the day using the truck to pull the heavy sleds along the gravel roads. Almost all the snow was gone.

The very next day the remainder of the river ice broke up and melted. Break up or Maachestan had started. We had made it home, just in time.



Symposium "Gateway to Building Economic Channels"

June 4-5-6, 2002 at the Val-d'Or Congress Center

The municipality of Val-d'Or and Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) have initiated the organizing of a major business event and this with the theme of « Gateway to Building Economic Channels ». This gathering will take place on June 4, 5, 6, at the Val-d'Or Congress Centre, which will involve business people from every Cree community, to discuss various possibilities such as joint ventures, strategic alliances and business links with business people from Val-d'Or and the region.

During these three days, conferences, workshops and business meetings will take place to provide both the Cree participants and regional business people the firm opportunity to be informed on the hydroelectric EM1 project and the possible Rupert River project. We all understand the economic potential of these two projects and although the EM1 project is a go, we need to discuss issues related to the project and other development issues such as:

- Human Resources – (Training)
- Natural Resources (Mining –Forestry – Environment)
- Economic Development and all related construction projects
(Ground and aerial transportation – Construction – Financing)

The organizing committee will also be providing conference rooms for business to business meetings.

Under the honorary Co-presidency of the Grand Chief of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee), Dr. Ted Moses and the Mayor of Val-d'Or, Mr. Fernand Trahan, this joint organization is showing the willingness of both the Crees and the business community of the Region to work together.

For more information on this event, please contact Mrs. Marie-Lyse Firlotte, co-ordinator (819) 825-7014 or Mr. Pierre Ouellet, Project Director, (819) 825-4630.

If you are interested to participate, please contact your Economic Agent before May 15, 2002

Rupert Reverence

Cree and Quebecers Unite to Preserve Northern Rivers

Rupert Reverence's Board of Directors announces the creation of its Cree Wing and wishes to warmly welcome their new Cree Directors:

Mrs. Lisa Petagumskum, Co-President
(Whapmagoostui/Chisasibi)
Mr. Lindy Moar, Vice-President (Nemaska)
Mrs. Danielle OBomsawin Mukash (Whapmagoostui)
Mr. James Diamond (Waskaganish/Nemaska)
Mr. George Awashish (Mistissini)

They are joining:

Mr. Éric Gagnon, Co-President (Chibougamau)
Mr. Robert Bernad, Vice-President (Rouyn)
Mrs. Jacqueline Leroux (Chibougamau)
Dr. Joël Létourneau (Chibougamau)
Mr. Sylvain Roberge (Chibougamau)
Mr. Stéphane Pelletier (Chibougamau)

Rising above cultural differences, 11 Cree and Jamesians now join forces to protect Eeyou Istchee Rivers against the controversial Eastmain/Rupert hydro projects.

As Rupert Reverence is planning a information tour of the communities right after Goose Break, the Directors invite all interested individuals and parties to come and meet with us. A most complete review of environmental, social, industrial, political and economical impacts of EM1/EM-1A projects and hydro development in general will be given.

Congratulations and good luck to our new Directors, it is a privilege to have you on Board !

And good G Break to everyone [or something appropriate]

For information:

Lisa Petagumskum, Co-President, Cree Wing Chisasibi
(819) 855-2844 #5311
Lindy Moar, Vice-President, Cree Wing, Némaska
(819) 673-2536
Éric Gagnon, Co-President, Jamesian Wing Chibougamau
(418) 748-7747
Robert Bernard, Vice-President, Jamesian Wing Rouyn
(819) 637-7490



BY MELORA KOEPKE

Oskiniko Larry Loyie's dream of becoming an author has been realized several times over, but he hasn't stopped with his own

success. For Loyie, the process of writing is a powerful force for healing and achieving a sense of self-esteem and power – an important part of his job consists of helping others to find their own "voices" as writers. Along with his partner Constance Brissenden, he works and teaches extensively in Native communities across the country.

Jack-of-All-Trades

Oskiniko Larry Loyie was born in Slave Lake, Alberta, to a traditional Cree family. He spent his early years living a traditional Cree lifestyle, learning by watching and practicing skills with his extended family, listening to stories and participating in ceremonies. At the age of 10 he was taken away from his ancestral home and placed in St Bernard's Mission residential school in Grouard, Alberta. He left when he was 14 and made a life working on farms and in logging camps. He joined the Canadian Armed Forces at 18, and spent years serving in Europe before returning to work in Northern B.C. and Alberta as a fisherman, logger and Native Counsellor.

Throughout all this, Loyie longed for the traditional way of life he had lived as a young child. This longing, coupled with his burning desire to be a published writer, motivated him to go back to school and to become involved with the literacy movement; he spent 1991, the year of literacy, crisscrossing BC interviewing Native teachers for two radio documentaries.

A Match Made In Heaven

Larry Loyie met Constance Brissenden in the mid-1990s at a creative writing workshop she was teaching in Vancouver. The meeting must have been serendipity of some sort – Brissenden, a professional magazine writer, became his partner in life and work, encouraging him in his craft. Since 1993, the two have worked together on many projects. Loyie is now the proud author of several published and performed plays, and a book of short stories. Loyie's first play, *Ora Pro Nobis* (Pray For Us), about surviving residential school, was performed across Canada in the mid-90s, including a tour of federal prisons, with Brissenden as the play's director. Since then, Brissenden has directed all Loyie's plays for the stage, and the two have formed a company, Living Traditions, which published the volume *Two Plays About Residential School* (1998), which includes Loyie's *Ora Pro Nobis* (Pray For Us) and *Strength of Indian Women*, a play by Secwepemc/Ktunaxa writer Vera Manuel.

Teaching: A Mission

Loyie and Brissenden were recently in Montreal for the Blue Metropolis Books festival, an event that draws writers of many races and nationalities for a week of celebrating words with readings, panels and parties. The two participated on a panel, "Voix Autochtones" (Aboriginal Voices), with children's author C.J. Taylor and well-known Native playwright Daniel David Moses. They also participated in a Community Writing Event, a writing workshop to encourage enthusiasm for the written word.

In fact, literacy outreach work is a big part of Loyie's and Brissenden's profession as writers, and a major mandate of their Vancouver-based company. The two spend a large part of every year traveling to Native communities across North America giving writing workshops and encouraging people to tell their stories "in their own voice." A collection of students' writing, *Acimowina /Storytelling* (Voices Rising/Learning at the Centre Press, 2000), shows the impressive results of a week-long session with the Wabasca Desmarais people at Stony Point Campus at the Northern Lakes College, in Alberta.

"It's important to encourage writing within First Nations communities," says Loyie. "Writing can be a tool to honour the past and heal the present." The Living Traditions motto, "To honour yourself is to honour your ancestors," speaks of Loyie's and Brissenden's conviction that creative writing is a good way to begin healing the anger that many Native people carry within themselves.

"In my workshops, I show the students what I have written about my own memories of the old ways, and I treat them as equals, encouraging them to write down their own versions of what they remember from their own history and the histories of their families," says Loyie.

The Future is the Past

Loyie sees the process of writing as a way to remember the old ways. "Nobody travels by horse anymore, and most of us don't learn the traplines and the way to dry meat and where to collect berries from our elders the way we used to," says Loyie.

"I like to tell stories about the traditional First Nations ways, so readers, especially young ones, can have access to a way of life they may not hear too much about these days. It's a way of putting down the stories of my people's history, of recording the memories so that a hundred years from now, even, people can go back and read about the way things were."

Most recently, Loyie and Brissenden are the authors of a children's book, *As Long As the Rivers Flow*, coming soon from Vancouver's Groundwood Books. The story is based on Loyie's own memories of his last summer before entering Residential school, a time full of learning and adventure.

That summer, Loyie learned to trap, to sew moccasins, and he got his name, Oskiniko, meaning young man, from his grandfather. "It was very painful to go from being a young man included in all my family's activities to the Catholic school, where we were treated like little children and abused and called savages, and punished every time we tried to speak our own language or practice the things we had learned from our families."

Loyie remembers that summer of his tenth year very well. "I think this summer is [so clear in my mind] because it was my last summer of being a kid, before the Residential School stole my childhood away from me," says Loyie.

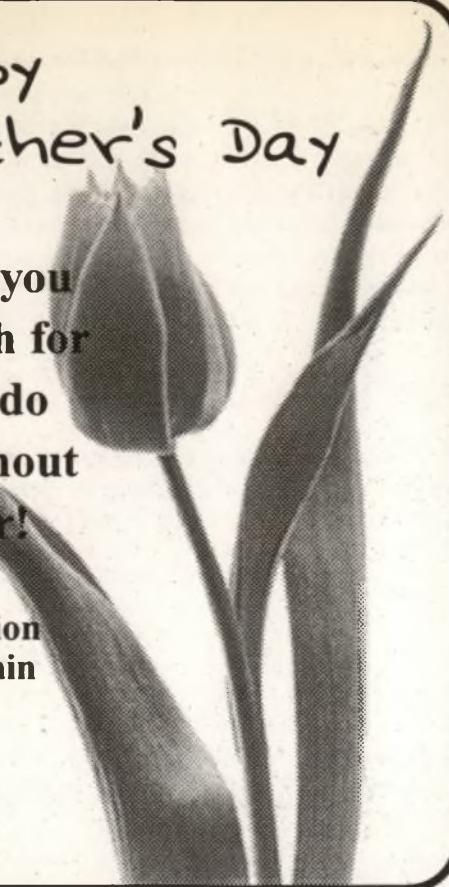
But the book, which is intended for kids aged 10 and up, is a mostly happy tale of the ways Loyie's people did things in the old days, full of fun and adventure. In it, the boy Larry cares for an orphaned baby owl, helps prepare the men of his family for a hunting-gathering trip, and watches his grandmother sew moccasins and kill a grizzly bear with a single bullet. All of which, confirms Loyie, are true stories. "That Grizzly ended up being the biggest one ever killed in North America," he says with a grin.

Larry Loyie and Constance Brissenden can be reached on the Internet at www.firstnationswriter.com
by email at livingtradition@telus.net
by telephone at 604-876-0880
by fax at 604-876-5105

Happy
Mother's Day

Thank-you
so much for
all you do
throughout
the year!

Cree Nation
of Eastmain



Happy
Mother's Day

May your
Special Day
be filled with
sunshine,
love and joy

Cree Nation of
Ouje-Bougoumou



CONNAISSEZ-VOUS
 CETTE PERSONNE?



FORT PROBABLEMENT QUE NON.

Et c'est normal. Cependant, le Directeur de l'état civil, lui, doit pouvoir identifier les personnes à qui il délivre des documents aussi importants que les certificats de naissance, de mariage et de décès. Voilà pourquoi de nouvelles mesures de sécurité ont été mises en place.

Votre identité est précieuse.
Il faut AGIR pour la protéger.

Québec: (418) 643-3900, Montréal: (514) 864-3900
Ailleurs au Québec: 1 800 567-3900
www.etatcivil.gouv.qc.ca

Québec

On prépare l'avenir



The Naughty Squaw

Do you have a question that you are too shy to ask your mother? The Naughty Squaw will be your confidant. No topic is too embarrassing. Send your letters by fax to (514) 278-9914; or by e-mail to <nation@beesum.ca>.

Dear Naughty Squaw,

I keep seeing "Secret Admirer" classifieds addressed to my boyfriend in your magazine. Should I be worried? Should I confront him?

Signed,
Worry wart

My dear, I would not use the word "confront" in this situation. A confrontation means that there is a conflict to resolve, and there is no conflict between you and your boyfriend here. After all, he did not ask to be secretly admired. He did not submit a classified ad. He's actually just an innocent bystander.

The conflict is between you and the Secret Admirer. That coward is trying to get a piece of your action, and doesn't even have the nerve to reveal her (or his) identity. So, don't get worried, get offended! Fight fire with fire and send in your own classified.

Dear Naughty Squaw,

I'm at my wit's end and have only you to turn to. Ever since I stopped wearing bloomers and switched to panties, I have had the problem professionals refer to as VPL. What can I do to prevent VPL? I've tried the thong thang but I find they ride too high up in the country.

Signed,
VPL Sufferer

Sweetheart, haven't you seen *Trainspotting*? For those of you who missed this underground-gone-famous 1996 film, it featured then-unknown Ewan MacGregor and his still-unknown buddy vigourously scoping out VPLs—otherwise known as Visible Panty Lines. I myself used to worry

about VPL until I realized that some guys actually find this sexy. It allows them to more easily imagine undressing you, because they have a visual clue as to what kind of underwear you're sporting. So, far from trying to prevent them, you should be proud of your panty lines. And let me dispel a myth here: thongs do not prevent VPL. They merely move the line to a more unexpected place, thus rendering your backside even more intriguing to VPL enthusiasts. Use this information as you will.

Dear Naughty Squaw,

I have a problem. My boyfriend keeps whispering, "Who's your daddy?" in my ear during the sex act. What's with that? It turns me off.

Signed,
Turned Off

Oooh, sounds like a Freud thing. I don't get it either. What is one supposed to say? I mean, a breathless, "You are," indicates some kind of imaginary incest, while the factual "Darling, you know my father's name is George," is sure to put a damper on things.

The best response is one that answers the question without having to actually answer the question. Try something like, "Hey, less talk and more action, bud."



Chibougamau
Service des Loisir
Ville de Chibougamau
650, 3^e Rue
Chibougamau Qc G8P 1P1

Festival
in
August
2002

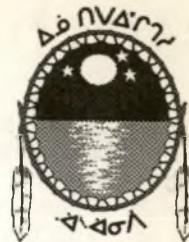
The dates of August 1st to the 4th 2002 are to be boldly inscribed in your agenda, because the 4th edition of the Chibougamau Festival in August will be held. The event will unfold downtown on an exterior stage along with a myriad of activities.

An invitation to everyone from the Cree communities, of all ages, interested to shine their talent (singing, dancing, humor, visual artists, etc.) to please register immediately, by contacting Chantale Bouchard, Service des Loisirs (recreational services) at (418) 748-7195.



The Cree Nation of Waswanipi
would like to wish all the mom's

a very
Happy Mother's Day



*Happy
Mother's Day*

TO ALL THE MOTHER'S
THROUGHOUT JAMES BAY.



dNdo-DbG'

AUBERGE
CAPISSIT
LODGE

1 Wastawshkootaw Meskino
Ouje-Bougoumou Qc
G0W 3C0
Tel.: 418-745-3944
Fax: 418-745-3469



SHOOTING FOR A NEW CAREER
Upgrading 2002-2003

INTERESTED IN COMPLETING
YOUR HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA?

Registration (beginning August 12th, ending August 16th, 2002) will be held from 1h00 PM to 430h PM at the CRA conference room, or 5h00 PM to 9h00 PM at the high school (gym entrance).

You will need to bring with you; your latest transcripts (record of marks), BIRTH CERTIFICATE AND SOCIAL INSURANCE NUMBER.

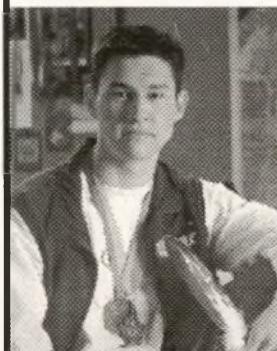
If you can seriously put your heart into your studies and attend regularly, your goal CAN be reached in 2 years!

For further details: Contact Philip Kropveld
Tel.# (819) 673-2490 • Fax # (819) 673-2543

August 2002
Adult Education Services Nemaska



MATTHEW DUNN is shooting for the stars!



The National Aboriginal
Achievement Foundation
70 Yorkville Avenue, Suite 33A,
Toronto, Ontario, M5R 1B9
Telephone: 416-926-0775
Fax: 416-926-7554
Website: www.naaf.ca
E-mail: naaf@istar.ca

He's setting his sights on graduate study in aerospace engineering. Right now, Matthew is a third year mechanical engineering student, a track and field pole vault athlete who excels in being airborne, and, in what may be his proudest role so far, he is Saskatchewan's chosen representative to the National Native Role Model program.

The National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation is proud to assist Matthew and others like him to achieve their goals. Financial assistance is available for business, science and general education studies that start in September 2002. To be eligible, you must submit a completed application by June 1.

Call us at 1-800-329-9780.
We'll send you an application.

THE DEADLINE IS JUNE 1



Weyerhaeuser
The future is growing.

TransCanada

LET'S GET THE CBC NORTH CREE PROGRAMS BACK ON THE AIR!

and/or your Member of Parliament

**DO YOU MISS THE NEWS AND
ALL YOUR FAVORITE CBC
PROGRAMS?**

**IF SO, SAY IT LOUD AND
CLEAR!**

The CBC has **LOCKED OUT** 1400 people who work in radio and television. This lock-out not only prevents CBC employees from doing their jobs but prevents you from having the services you are entitled to as a taxpayer.

The people who are currently locked out are news readers, hosts, librarians, film librarians, meteorologists, journalists, researchers, public relations staff, newsroom clerks and script and production assistants.

The employees want to negotiate. We want to reach an agreement in principle, which would offer solutions to the very real problems in our workplace.

JOB INSECURITY that affects half the union's membership

PAY EQUITY between employees in Quebec and the rest of Canada

PAY EQUITY between men and women

women
WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

MAKE A COMPLAINT !!

Send petitions to:

Syndicat des communications de Radio-Canada (FNC-CSN)
1050 Rene-Levesque Blvd. east, Bureau
103, Montreal, Quebec, H2L 2L6
(514) 842-4020 or 1-888-842-4020
Fax : (514) 842-3336
www.scrc.qc.ca

For more Information: Radio Freedom / Radio Libre of the SCRC

www.ssrc.gc.ca/radio-libre.pls

The Nation supports the workers at CBC in their efforts.

The first community radio stations in the Cree territory were a result of Crees being trained by CBC employees. In many cases the radio stations still use CBC transmitters.

The CBC North employees also bring to the Crees needed news in the Cree language and help to keep our trappers up to date through shortwave radio.

To complain to the *CBC*

* David Bazay

David Ball
Ombudsman
telephone: (416)205-2978
mail: c/o Laura Marshall
P.O. Box 500
Station A,
Toronto, ON
M5W1E6
e-mail: laura_marshall@cb
x: (416)205-2825

Robert Rabinovitch

ROBERT RABINOVITCH
President of the CBC
mail: 250, Lanark Avenue
C.P. 3220, succ. C
Ottawa (Ontario) K1Y 1E4
e-mail: commho@ottawa.cbc.ca
Montreal office (514)597-6333
Fax: (514)597-5439

To complain to the Heritage Minister:

* The Honourable Sheila Copps

By mail : Canadian Heritage Minister

**House of Commons
Ottawa (Ontario) K1A OA6
(No stamp necessary)**

Fax: (613)992-2727
email: copps.s@parl.gc.ca

Get People to fill out the Petition Below

To CBC President Robert Rabinovitch,
We, the viewers and listeners, are cur-
ing programming on Radio-Canada and
March 23rd. As taxpayers whose tax dollar
the lock-out end immediately so that pro-
quality.

Name _____

Address

The management
and staff of the
Chisasibi Centre
want to wish all
the mother's a
very
Happy
Mother's Day

CHI-Chisasibi Centre

To all mother's everywhere,
We at the CBHSSJB would like to
Thank you, Praise you and
Honor you
on this very special day
have a
Happy
Mother's day



Cree Board of Health and
Social Services of James Bay



The Cree Construction and Development Company Ltd.

JOB OPPORTUNITY

POSITION: Assistant Project Manager

REFERENCE NUMBER: 15-30-014 - 22/04/02

LOCATION: LAVAL/MISTISSINI

The Cree Construction & Development Company Ltd ("CCDC") is presently seeking an Assistant Project Manager for its subsidiary Gestion ADC.

Gestion ADC provides services in the following fields; kitchen services, room cleaning, camp management and a variety of other services.

Under the authority of the Project Manager, the Assistant Project Manager has the responsibility of ensuring that the quality of the services is maintained and that contracts are respected. The Assistant will perform administrative clerical work, which will include billing, submission preparation, correction and processing of time sheets amongst other tasks.

Employment Requirements:

- Education in a related field (Business Administration or other);
- Experience in Administration;
- Appropriate computer skills (Excel, Word etc.) are required;
- Must speak, read and write in English and French;
- Knowledge of the Cree language is a definite asset;
- Must be willing to receive required training;

The company offers complete benefit programs and the salary will commensurate with qualifications and experience. This position is available to both men and women.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: MAY 17, 2002

You can either fax your resume to the following number or mail to:

Robert Baribeau-Human Resources Advisor
The Cree Construction and Development Company Ltd.
187-B Main Street P.O. Box Office 1011
Mistissini, Quebec G0W 1C0

Fax: 418-923-2050

Please write the reference number on your application



CLASSIFIEDS

MOTHER'S DAY WISH

I want to wish my mother Margaret Niquanicappo a Happy Mother's Day. I love you with all my heart, I wish you all the happiest that you can get and never stop laughing. Love from Mary.

Happy Mother's Day to my aunt Betsy Masty, grandmother Amy Niquanicappo, and to all my friends. From Mary Niquanicappo.

100 - BIRTHS

I would like to say congratulations to Ruby and Brian Atchynia in Whapmagoostui on the birth of their baby girl who was born April 8th 2002. I wish you all good health and take care. From Mary Niquanicappo in Whap.

101 - BIRTHDAYS

Extra special birthday greetings going out to our kiddies, COLLIN RENDALL JOHN BLUEBOY turns 6 on April 11/02, and MARLANA ELSA ROBYN TRAPPER will be 3 on April 28/02. You both have grown so fast in so little time but remember that you always be our babies. We are thankful for being a part of your precious lives and to watch you grow and discover something new each day. Again, Happy Birthday, and many more to come...With lots & lots of love, Mommy, Daddy and Kaylyne. OXOXOX

Birthday wishes going to these people... In Waskaganish, Melanie B. turns ?? on April 1st, Hey, Mel...quit worrying your mom so much..lol. Arnold turns 21 on April 25/02 (you wish!! Okay, I won't tell your real age, but I hope it was a good day)...and in Moose Factory... Mom/Goo-Goo Frances Trapper celebrates her birthday on April 15/02, thanks for all the times you have been there for us....Again, best wishes on all your special days...From Diane, John, Collin, Marlana and Kaylynesh. P.S. OXOXO to Frances...alright..u 2 Arnold.

We would like to wish a Happy birthday to my Dad (joomshoom) Sydney Bobbush on May 1st 2002, my sister Victoria Bobbush on May 24 2002, and to my niece (cuz) Carrie Napash on May 29 2002. Happy Birthday! With Love: Helen, Tara and Dre-Lyn.

I would like to wish a Happy birthday to my special cousin and friend Lisa on May 1st, 2002. From Helen

I would like to wish a Happy Birthday to my buddy Lisa on May 1st, 2002. Hope you enjoy you special day. From Bessie.

Happy Belated Birthday to my Cuz, my best friend, Barbara R. Hester on April 6, 2002 from Waskaganish. Barbs, well first of all, Happy ?? Birthday, i hope you had great time on your birthday (sorry i wasn't there)...I thank you for your friendship, for the radiance of you smile. You my friend, Your smile makes me smile. Your pain makes me hurt. I want you to know...If you need me...I'm there. make you happy, make you laugh. Do you remember the time when...? There are so many times. You my friend, Don't ever lose the wonderful person you are. Stay happy. Stay healthy. Stay you. LUV YA CUZ!! From, Elaine

This past year has been the most wonderful year of my life for one reason; the birth of my daughter Katie Victoria Wapabee on April 21st 2001. I



would like to wish her a Happy 1st Birthday, which is coming up. Love always, Mommie Nellie.

We would like to wish a Happy Birthday to our son Nathan Wapabee Hogue, who just turned 1 year old on March 27th 2001. We love you and enjoying having you. We are forever thankful



to God for you in our lives. Love always, Mom & Dad, Annie & Enamul Hogue. Kingston, Ontario.

Special Birthday Greeting going out to my non-stop talker, ni-we-pa-ma-kin, and sweet grand-daughter, Stephanie Betsy RabbitSkin. She'll be turning 4 on April 30th. Can't believe you'll be going to school next year already. I love our times together after we're in bed and ask me to "wea-do-dow". I also love our singing together, "Jesus loves Me" and "Twinkle, twinkle little star". I love you very much and hope your birthday at our Goose Camp will be fun and wish you many more birthdays to come. Love always, your grand-ma Lillian.

We would like to wish a Happy 84th Birthday to someone very special to us, our Grandpa Billy Salt. He'll blow out his candles on April 23rd 2002. We love you so much. With love, your grandchildren, your great grand-child and Lynn and Joey in Waskaganish.

We would like to wish Happy 9th Birthday to a very special young man. His name is Ryan Saganash from Waswanipi. Have fun on your goose break. From Mom, Ian, Dawn, Kansas and Kookum.

A Happy Belated Birthday to

Sarah Atchynia and Donna Rupert who both had their Birthday on April 12th. From Mary Niquanicappo in Whap.

Happy Birthday to my baby brother Nathan Wapabee Hogue. Hope you had a great time on your Birthday. It's too bad we couldn't take you to the Comic's Adventurers, I was sick that day. But there's always next time. From your oldest sister Natasha Hogue. Kingston, ON.

We would like to wish a Happy 1st Birthday to our sweet little boy, Warren Gull-Saganash. His birthday is on April 26th 2002. From love always, Mommy Julia, Daddy Bruce & Big Brother Robin.

Happy Birthday to my sister Sarah W. Sheshamush on April 30th and to her son Ian on May 9th. "May dreams come true". From Jaclyn & Family.

Happy Birthday to my lovely daughter Sylvanna Theresa Weistche on April 30th. I love you very much Sylvanna. From your mom Beatrice. And also to my two brothers Hugo G. Hester on April 18th and Daniel G. Hester on April 28th. I love you both. From your sister Beatrice / And the same Birthday wishes coming from auntie and sister Evelyn.

Happy Birthday (DAD) Elijah! It mustn't have been easy to raise me but you did it. For a stubborn and opinionated person to raise another, it must have been a joy..now just joshing ya. I love you no matter what our difference of opinions are, especially on the arguments on the AIP. So, if you want the residential school syndrome leadership style to continue, I will respect your opinion but I will never agree with it. JUST KIDDING>>I love you and I am proud to be your daughter. If God foresaw how much we would fight, he must have had a reason. So for this, I thank HIM for allowing our time together to be the most challenging and

CLASSIFIEDS



Mariette Parker
Agent immobilier affilié
Bur.: (819) 825-5066

925, 3e avenue
Val d'Or (Québec)
J9P 1T4
mparker@royallepage.ca
Rés.: (819) 825-2159
Fax: (819) 825-5560
Télé-avertisseur: (819) 280-4350



4th Annual CANADIAN ABORIGINAL MUSIC AWARDS

Music entry forms are now available at Indian Art-I-Crafts of Ontario/Festival/Music Awards office, band offices, friendship centres, cultural centres, or download from our website at www.canab.com

For more info call (519) 751-0040

Deadline date is June 30th, 2002

Aboriginal communities and businesses are faced with many challenges and opportunities.

BDO understands your needs and we want to work with you.

Call us today and let's discuss how we can help you succeed.

- Strategic Planning • IT Services • Accpac Solutions
- Financial Advisory Services • Audit and Accounting

514-931-0841 • 1-800-319-4933 • www.bdo.ca



BDO BDO Dunwoody
Chartered Accountants and Consultants



*Happy
Goose Break !*

Garage A. Chamberland Inc.

581, 3e Rue
Chibougamau
Québec, G8P 1N8

Tél.: (418)748-4841
Fax: (418)748-3040
Rés.: (418)748-6886
(418)748-4753

24 hour Towing
Mécanique générale
Remorquage 24hres

most inspiring times of our lives. When you say, I can't, I know I can, and when you say I shouldn't, I know I will. Thank you for instilling determination and belief in myself. I also know

there were times when you said that just to get me moving.

Remember when I said I was getting married, and you totally denounced it? Do you also remember what I said? "Fine,

you're not invited anyway, I don't need a man to walk me to another. I will walk down the aisle by myself." I now know what you meant, you were just being a dad watching out for his only daughter. After ten years of lessons from the school of hard knocks of Marital Bliss Collegiate, I can appreciate your concern, totally. Anyway... Happy Birthday, I know you forgot your birthday but I didn't. I LOVE YOU DAD...and I hope you remember that each and everyday. Love your daughter, Lisa

I just want to take this time to wish a very beautiful and Happy 5th Birthday to a very special boy from Waskaganish, On May 14th, Jeremy River Lee Stevens. May your day be as wonderful and special as you have always been. Keep on smiling buddy! Have the best day of your life, with all of your family and friends...Also, wishing a very Happy mother's day to you Jamie, May your day be just as precious as you have always been. May The Good Lord up above bless you, and keep you both safe always, within his gracious loving arms and most precious love. From your friend always, TP. Happy birthday to kyle blacksmith in waswanipi on april 12 th, from your uncle tom who loves you very very much.

We would like to wish happy 2nd birthday to a special person in our lives to our son Evander Ottereyes on May 4 2002, remember that we will always love you and we will always be there for you when you need us and once again happy birthbay. from love always Mommy and Daddy

I would like to say Happy Birthday to Johnson Dixon from Waswanipi don't drink to hard Johnson.....:) anyways I only wanted to say Happy Birthday From a friend that is a girl in Eastmain you might know me (f.g)

104 - GRADUATIONS
Congratulations to Miss

Suzanne Wapachee-Pet in obtaining a General Bachelor's Degree from the University of Ottawa. And to Valerie Wapachee-Pet in completing her Secondary V in Mistissini. We are very proud of you. From Lillian Mabel and all the girls: Alexandria, Jaimee, Drew, Kimmi and especially Sadie. Good role models for all of us. We love you both. Class of 2002. Wow! You go girls!

300 - PERSONALS

I would like to say a few words to my b-friend Michael E. from Waswanipi. The handsomest, sweetest, smartest guy I've ever known, and the funniest guy to be with. I just want to say I miss you a lot and I love you honey. Take care, from your g-friend in Mist.

I would like to say hi to James Whiskey. He's in Waskaganish. It's been a year that I haven't seen you, I wish you were here and hope to see you soon. Bye for now. From your love in Mistissini.

To Bobby Esau, I want the whole world to know you are my friend, my buddy. I don't care what else they think. Think good and positive thoughts about yourself. Hope to see you soon and will be talking to you always whenever I can. From your Waswanipi pal, Elizabeth.

I would like to say I love you to these two girls of mine; Angie Otter and our beautiful baby girl Felishia V.B.F. Otter, I will always be there for you both. I can't wait to go to Olga Lake again, I had a lot of fun there with your family. I had a good hunt with your brother Antoine and your father. I felt really good when we killed that 22 pointer, it was a big buck. I hope next fall will be the same. And Antoine, try to get glasses; these moose were right in front of you (joke).

I'll be waiting for next fall to come again. Angie and Felishia, I will always take care of you both no matter what. I love you. Patrick F.



Air Creebec

*Professional Service
Competitive Rates
Modern Aircrafts*



Your travel choice

For reservations, charters or information, call toll-free: 1-800-567-6567
Or visit our website at: www.aircreebec.ca

Don't be fooled!

Beesum
can help.

- Brochures, pamphlets, newsletters, posters
- Photography
- Writing and editing
- Marketing and distribution
- Researching and reporting
- Film and video production
- Translation
- Web design


Beesum
communications



5505 St-Laurent, suite 3018, Montreal, QC, H2T-1S6

Tel: 514-272-3077 Toll free: 1-877-814-9011 Fax: 514-278-9914 Email: beesum@beesum-communications.com